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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 

ANNE BRYANT, ELLEN BERNFELD, and GLORYVISION, LTD.,

Doc. No. 07-Civ-3050 (CLB)

Plaintiffs,

-against-

DECLARATION OF ELLEN BERNFELD IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

EUROPADISK, LTD., MEDIA RIGHT PRODUCTIONS, INC., VERY COOL MEDIA, INC., DOUGLAS MAXWELL, THE ORCHARD ENTERPRISES, INC. and RUSSELL J. PALLADINO,

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- I, Ellen Bernfeld, declare under penalty of perjury in accordance with the law of The State of New York where I am temporarily located, the following:
- 1. I am a Plaintiff in this action and reside at 990 Bogey Lane, Longboat Key, Florida. I submit this Declaration in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment as to Liability.

#### BACKGROUND

- 2. I am an accomplished musician, singer and songwriter and a vocal arranger and contractor with numerous professional credits and compositions in my portfolio.
- 3. I am an officer of Gloryvision, LTD ("Gloryvision"), a Plaintiff in this action.
- 4. Gloryvision is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York with its principal place of business at 21 Collaberg Road, Stony Point, NY 10980-0561.
- 5. I am a lyricist, composer, singer, and the vocal character actress who created 10 of the solo vocal characters, contracted other top NYC studio singers and arranged the vocal backgrounds that I sang with them on each individual music track; and I wrote, composed and coproduced each of the musical compositions with Plaintiff Anne Bryant that appear on the Songs For Dogs And The People Who Love Them ("Songs For Dogs") compilation as well as the Songs For Cats And The People Who Love Them ("Songs For Cats") compilation that are the subject of this litigation.
  - 6. Furthermore, along with Anne Bryant, I wrote the

story of the entertainment properties, Songs for Dogs and Songs for Cats, expressed in the accompanying texts that I authored.

- 7. Through Gloryvision, Anne Bryant and I have sold thousands of copies of these recordings, received much publicity and have had national television exposure. The recordings were a success for Gloryvision and were products that we sought to expand.
- 8. At issues are the following twenty (20) musical compositions:
  - a. The No Song;
  - b. If I Only Had a Thumb;
  - a. I Stole The Christmas Pie;
  - b. Please Don't Forget My Birthday;
  - c. The Very First Dog;
  - d. Do The Doggie Salsa;
  - e. I Been Cryin' All Night Since You're Gone;
  - f. Follow The Bone Lady;
  - g. Tomorrow's Another Day;
  - h. Could You Be An Angel?;
  - i. I'm Sweetie The Gourmet;
  - j. Curious x9;
  - k. Oh, My Little Sushi;
  - 1. The Scat Cat;
  - m. Watchin' Purry Mason;
  - n. I Pray For The World (A Christmas Prayer);
  - o. Allergic To You;
  - p. Catrina, The Ballerina;
  - q. Where Will I Sleep Tonight; and
  - r. I'm Purrfect.

#### THE COPYRIGHTS

9. Each of these tracks has been personally

copyrighted by Anne Bryant and/or Gloryvision with the United States Copyright Office either individually or/and as part of the complete compilation upon which they appear (Songs for Dogs & Songs for Cats). See Exhibit "B" Annexed to the Anne Bryant Declaration ("Bryant Declaration").

- 10. Each of the respective copyrights for each of the compositions listed above are held by myself, Anne Bryant or Gloryvision. See Exhibit "B" Annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 11. In addition to the copyrights for each of the musical recordings listed above, the lyrics and text associated with each are also registered by myself, Anne Bryant or Gloryvision. See Exhibit "B" Annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 12. All of the cover art and illustrations that we commissioned that appears in the cassette, compact disc and associated books are copyrighted by myself, Anne Bryant or Gloryvision. See Exhibit "B" Annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

## DEALINGS WITH MEDIA RIGHT

13. Gloryvision and Media Right entered into an agreement in February 2000 for the distribution of the compact disc and cassette copies of Songs For Dogs and

Songs For Cats. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration. This Agreement conveyed no intellectual property rights whatsoever including no copyrights and no authority to do anything other than promote the sale of physical copies which we supplied from our inventory. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

- 14. Based upon the terms of the agreement and Gloryvision's understanding of the terms of the agreement, Media Right was to use its best efforts to market and promote these recordings to catalogs, shopping networks, internet sites<sup>1</sup>, retailers and wholesalers in exchange for twenty percent of all gross sales under the agreement. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 15. In accordance with the agreement, Media Right was to notify Gloryvision in writing regarding all orders. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration. Under the agreement, Gloryvision was to maintain stock of the products and to ship the products to a specified vendor upon notification from Media Right. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 16. With respect to payment, Media Right productions was responsible for the collection of funds and was to pay

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the time of this agreement, the referral to "internet sites" was with respect to sales of physical copies of the compact discs and cassettes to online retailers such as amazon.com, cdnow.com, musicblvd.com, etc. As of February 2000, there were no legal online download sites such as iTunes nor did we seek to sell digital versions of our recordings at that time.

Gloryvision its specified share within seven days of Media Right's receipt of payment. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration. Furthermore, Media Right was to supply Gloryvision with a monthly report of marketing and promotion activities done on its behalf. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

- 17. Furthermore, the agreement also acknowledged that Gloryvision was (and remains) the owner of all copyrights and rights pursuant to these recordings. See Exhibit "A" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 18. According to the terms of the agreement, drafted by Media Right, the agreement to sell physical compact discs and tapes provided by Plaintiffs' to Media Right expired in 2003.
- 19. The business conduct between Gloryvision and Media Right parties demonstrates that the there was no agreement in effect between Gloryvision and Media Right to sell physical copies as of February 2003 and **never** an agreement between Media Right and Gloryvision to authorize digital copies to be made and distributed by any third parties including The Orchard.
- 20. For the duration of the agreement and five years after, neither I nor Gloryvision received a single invoice, statement, check, letter, telephone call or any other

notice from any Defendant regarding the sales or distribution of my products.

- 21. At no time did I nor Gloryvision authorize Media Right or any other third party the right to reproduce copies of any of the copyrighted musical recordings, artwork, lyrics, text, packaging or any other intellectual property associated with Songs for Dogs or Songs for Cats.
- 22. At no time did I nor Gloryvision license or assign the copyrights held by myself, Anne Bryant or Gloryvision to any other party.
- 23. Neither I nor Gloryvision have ever received any royalty statements, checks or copies of any third party agreements regarding sales of any of the copyrighted recordings, text or images, described above from Defendants Media Right Productions, Douglas Maxwell (a/k/a Douglas Berlent), or The Orchard Enterprises, Inc. ("The Orchard").

#### I LEARNED THAT COPIES OF MY MUSIC WERE SOLD ONLINE

- 24. In the summer of 2006, I learned that recordings titled "Songs For Dogs and The People Who Love Them" and "Songs For Cats and The People Who Love Them" were listed on amazon.com after speaking with Anne Bryant.
- 25. Although this was not unusual because Gloryvision also sold physical copies of Songs For Dogs and Songs For

Cats through amazon.com, these were recordings with names identical to the Gloryvision copies but were credited to The Orchard and Media Right Productions. See Exhibits "C" and "D" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

- 26. In fact, as of May 15, 2008, these recordings were still listed on Amazon.com with Media Right Productions credited as the Artist and The Orchard credited as the record label with the release date of March 20, 2000. See Exhibits "C" and "D" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 27. Immediately after I saw these recordings attributed to Media Right and at the time, an unknown third party named "The Orchard," Anne Bryant performed a search on the world wide web to see if our recordings were sold anywhere else and by whom.
- 28. I was surprised to learn that my recordings were sold not only physically on amazon.com [and also by numerous 3<sup>rd</sup> party sellers worldwide represented on amazon.com] and attributed to Media Right and The Orchard but also as digital downloadable copies through a multitude of download services such as iTunes and Rhapsody. See Exhibits "E" and "F" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Songs for Dogs/Songs For Cats had already been released by Gloryvision well before 2000 and was already sold through Amazon.com by then.

### Rhapsody

- 29. On Rhapsody, a full list of all my copyrighted recordings was listed, with full cover art displayed on the screen. The original trademark names of the original characters associated with each song were also listed. In addition, not only could you purchase individual tracks, but you could also stream (listen without downloading these tracks up to 4xs for free) as an introductory offer to potential subscribers of a monthly membership plan through Rhapsody. See Exhibit "E" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 30. With a free trial membership to Rhapsody, you could download and stream high quality digital copies of each of the recordings listed above.
- 31. Nowhere was Gloryvision or myself or Anne Bryant credited with any of the recordings sold or streamed by Rhapsody. However, the record label listed for the recordings was "Orchard". See Exhibit "E" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

#### <u>iTunes</u>

32. On iTunes, another internet music downloading service, Anne Bryant again found our copyrighted recordings sold not only individually and track by track, but also with the complete cover art and the original character

names listed alongside each song. Furthermore, the artist listed for these recordings was "Media Right Productions" and the release date was February 8, 2000. See Exhibit "F" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

- 33. Most importantly, on iTunes, there was a copyright notice claiming that Media Right held the copyright to the subject recordings. See Exhibit "F" annexed to the Bryant Declaration containing the following text "@ 2000 MEDIA RIGHT."
- 34. Upon further investigation, Anne Bryant discovered who the Orchard was and that they were distributing digital copies of our music to their digital partners. See Exhibit "G" annexed to the Bryant Declaration containing a listing of The Orchard's "digital stores," "cd stores," and "mobile partners."
- 35. A search of The Orchard's website also showed that they were acting as the digital distributor of the copyrighted recordings listed above. See Exhibit "H" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 36. The Orchard website listed "Songs For Dogs" and "Songs For Cats" as available through their digital partners. It also listed the Artist as Media Right Productions and the Label as Media Right. Furthermore,

there was a different UPC code assigned than the UPC code assigned to the compilations by Gloryvision. See Exhibit "H" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.

## COPYRIGHTS WERE NEVER TRANSFERRED OR ASSIGNED

37. At no time did I nor Gloryvision purport to transfer any copyrights or intellectual property to Media Right by any means.

# THE PRODUCTS WERE DISMEMBERED AND BUTCHERED BY DEFENDANTS

- 38. Each of the copyrighted recordings were gift packaged and sold by Gloryvision with a fully illustrated, colorful books that told the original story of each of the concept albums. These recordings were intended to be sold along with the illustrated book as physical compilations only.
- 39. It was never Gloryvision's intent to sell the tracks individually, for a price significantly less than the retail version of the packaged physical compact disc so as to cause Gloryvision to lose sales of physical inventory to digital copies that were inferior to the authentic high fidelity physical recordings released by Gloryvision.
  - 40. By selling thousands of inferior digital copies

track by track through countless "digital partners" worldwide, Defendants harmed the reputation, good will and trademarks associated with Songs For Dogs and Songs For Cats.

# EACH OF THE RECORDINGS WAS REGISTERED WITH BMI FOR THE COLLECTION OF PUBLIC PERFORMANCE AND STREAMING ROYALTIES

- 41. Each of the copyrighted recordings was registered with BMI (Broadcast Music Inc.) for payment and clearance of public performance royalties. See Exhibit "I" annexed to the Bryant Declaration.
- 42. Each stream on the online music services that partnered with The Orchard (including but NOT limited to Rhapsody.com) is required to pay streaming income to BMI on behalf of the music publisher (Gloryvision) and the songwriters (Anne Bryant and I) for each stream.
- 43. To date, neither I, nor Gloryvision, has received a single payment of stream income related to online public performance from any of the online digital music services that were digital partners with The Orchard.
- 44. It is my opinion that all streaming income could not be attributed to Gloryvision because The Orchard and Media Right claimed not only copyright but also acted as either Artist and/or record label for each of the

performance royalties due to Gloryvision.

45. Based upon the foregoing, I and on behalf of Gloryvision, request that this Court grant Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment as to liability.

I hereby declare the foregoing to be true to the best of my knowledge and recollection under penalty of perjury as to those matters known to me.

Dated: June 6, 2008